

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the due consideration given the application.

Claims 42-53 are pending in the application. Claims 1-41 have been canceled. The claims have been amended to better set forth the section as being a cross section approximately vertical to an axis of the linear light-emitting element, as can be readily observed in the drawing figures.

No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this amendment.

Entry of this amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 is respectfully requested because it places the application in condition for allowance.

Art Rejections

Claims 42-50 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by YAMAZAKI et al. (U.S. Publication 2001/0026125). Claims 51-53 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over YAMAZAKI et al. in view of LIAO et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0170491). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention pertains to a light-emitting element that has a linear structure, which is clearly evident from Figures 1 and 13 of the application, which are reproduced below.

Fig.1

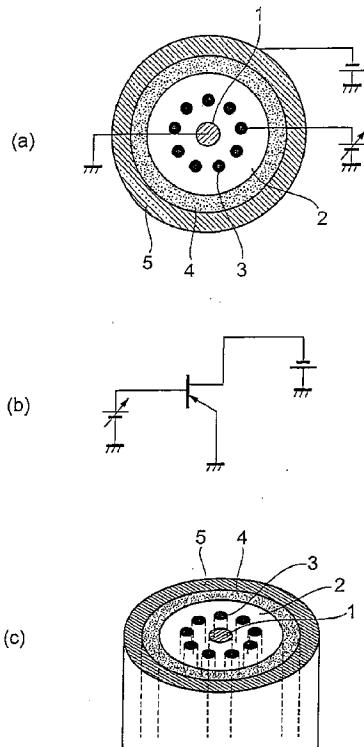
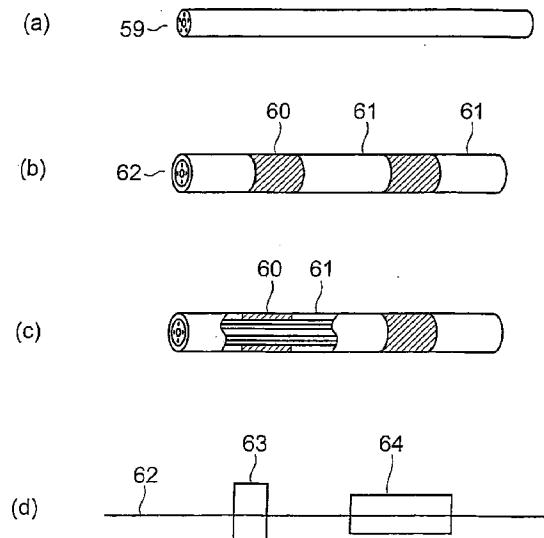


Fig.13



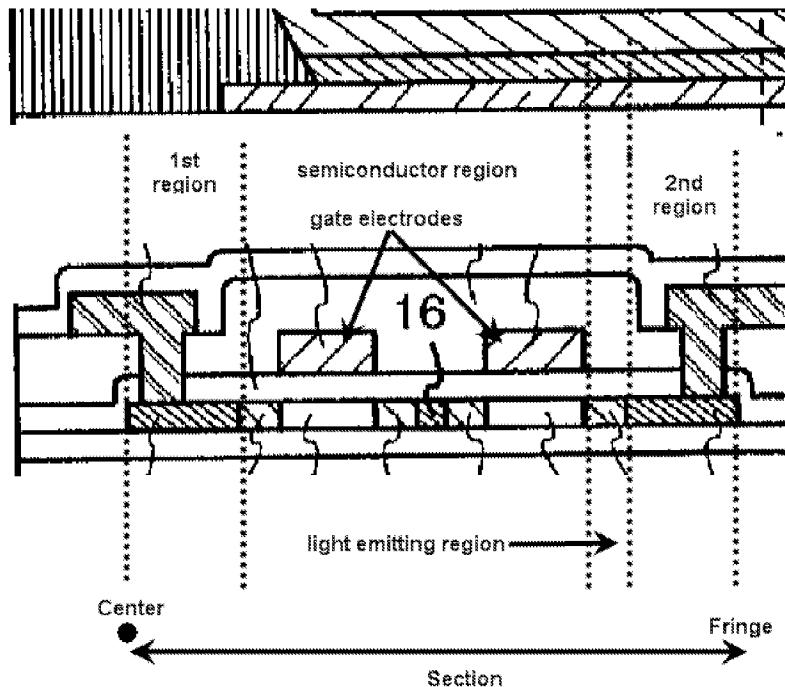
The claims of the present invention better set forth the linear nature of the light-emitting element. For example, independent claim 42 recites:

*"A linear light-emitting element, comprising:
a first region, a semiconductor region, a light-emitting region and a second region arranged from nearly a center to a fringe of a cross section approximately vertical to an axis of the linear light-emitting element,*

wherein in the semiconductor region, a plurality of gate electrodes are arranged in a shape of an island and a nearly concentric circle."

In contrast, the light-emitting element of YAMAZAKI et al. is not linear but planar. This can be readily observed, for

example, in the annotated section of Figure 6 found at page 3 of the Office Action (reproduced below).



The light-emitting device of YAMAZAKI et al. is thus fundamentally different from that of the present invention in the arrangement of components.

Specifically, it is known that when a MIS-FET (metal-insulator-semiconductor field-effect transistor) is used as an active circuit, the MIS-FET has a source, drain gate, gate dielectric film, element isolation region, etc.

The present invention is characterized in the arrangement of the components. The light-emitting element has a linear structure. The individual components are arranged concentrically about the central axis of the linear light-

emitting element. This results in unique effects when compared to the cited art references.

For example, at page 51, the specification discusses that since the light-emitting region and the light-emitting control region can be incorporated in a single linear body, there are such effects that an external driving circuit is no longer required, and driving with a lower voltage becomes possible. This effect is unforeseen and unexpected in the planar technologies of the conventional art typified by YAMAZAKI et al.

LIAO et al., used for teachings pertaining to lighting regions, fail to address the deficiencies of YAMAZAKI et al. discussed above.

YAMAZAKI et al. thus fail to anticipate a claimed embodiment of the present invention. One of ordinary skill and creativity would fail to produce a claimed embodiment of the present invention from a knowledge of YAMAZAKI et al. and LIAO et al., and a *prima facie* case of unpatentability has thus not been made.

These rejections are believed to be overcome, and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The Examiner is thanked for considering the Information Disclosure Statement filed January 5, 2006 and for making an initialed PTO-1449 Form of record in the application.

Prior art of record but not utilized is believed to be non-pertinent to the instant claims.

The objections and rejections are believed to have been overcome, obviated or rendered moot and that no issues remain. The issuance of a Notice of Allowability is accordingly respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future submissions, to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

/Robert E. Goozner/

Robert E. Goozner, Reg. No. 42,593
Customer No. 00466
209 Madison Street, Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

REG/lrs